

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:CVANCE
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S - MR. TARNOFF
NSC -ZBRZEZINSKI

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TO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 088368

NODIS
CHEROKEE EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADOR BENNETT FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MNUC

SUBJECT: ENHANCED RADIATION

1. PLEASE PRESENT THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT IN PARAGRAPH TWO TO THE NAC AT THE FRIDAY MEETING. I WILL CALL JOE LUNS TODAY ASKING HIM TO MAKE A SUPPORTIVE STATEMENT IN ADDITION TO THE PROPOSED SUMMING UP WHICH IS PARA THREE OF THIS MESSAGE.

2. BEGIN TEXT. I HAVE DECIDED TO DEFER PRODUCTION OF WEAPONS WITH ENHANCED RADIATION EFFECTS. THE ULTIMATE DECISION REGARDING THE INCORPORATION OF ENHANCED RADIATION FEATURES INTO OUR MODERNIZED BATTLEFIELD WEAPONS WILL BE MADE LATER, AND WILL BE INFLUENCED BY THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE SOVIET UNION SHOWS RESTRAINT IN ITS CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR ARMS PROGRAMS AND FORCE DEPLOYMENTS AFFECTING
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THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES AND WESTERN EUROPE.

ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE ORDERED THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED WITH THE MODERNIZATION OF THE LANCE MISSILE NUCLEAR WARHEAD AND THE 8-INCH WEAPON SYSTEM, LEAVING OPEN THE OPTION OF INSTALLING THE ENHANCED RADIATION ELEMENTS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS CONSULTED WITH ITS ALLIES IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL ON THIS DECISION, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DISCUSS WITH THEM APPROPRIATE ARMS CONTROL MEASURES TO BE PURSUED WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE AHEAD WITH OUR ALLIES TO MODERNIZE AND STRENGTHEN OUR MILITARY CAPABILITIES, BOTH CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR. WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO WHATEVER IS NECESSARY TO ASSURE OUR COLLECTIVE SECURITY AND THE FORWARD DEFENSE OF EUROPE. END TEXT.

3. BEGIN TEXT. PROPOSED LUNS SUMMING UP STATEMENT

AT THEIR MEETING TODAY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES CONTINUED THEIR DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION OF PRODUCING AND DEPLOYING WEAPONS WITH ENHANCED RADIATION (ER) EFFECTS. THE ALLIES REITERATED THEIR CONCERN WITH THE INCREASING OFFENSIVE CAPABILITIES OF SOVIET CONVENTIONAL FORCES AND WITH THE CONTINUED EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF OFFENSIVE SOVIET NUCLEAR FORCES. THEY THEREFORE STRESSED THE NEED TO MODERNIZE NATO'S MILITARY CAPABILITIES BOTH CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE ALLIES RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTRIBUTING TO EUROPEAN AND WORLD SECURITY THROUGH
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ARMS CONTROL AND THROUGH ACTS OF MUTUAL RESTRAINT AS BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT. THE ALLIES THEREFORE AGREED WITH THE US DECISION TO DEFER PRODUCTION OF ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS. THE ALLIES AGREED THAT FURTHER ACTION WOULD BE INFLUENCED BY THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE SOVIET UNION SHOWED RESTRAINT IN ITS ARMS PROGRAMS AND FORCE DEPLOYMENTS WHICH AFFECT NATO'S SECURITY. THEY AGREED THAT THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO DISCUSS APPROPRIATE ARMS CONTROL MEASURES TO BE PURSUED WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

THE ALLIES NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE UNITED STATES INTENDED TO PROCEED WITH THE MODERNIZATION OF THE LANCE NUCLEAR WARHEAD AND TO PURSUE THE MODERNIZATION OF THE 8-INCH WEAPONS SYSTEM, DEFERRING IN BOTH CASES THE INSTALLATION OF ELEMENTS THAT WOULD GIVE THESE WEAPONS SYSTEMS ER CAPABILITIES. END TEXT.

4. WE WILL CONSULT WITH YOU FURTHER ABOUT TIMING OF PUBLIC RELEASE OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON AND PUBLIC RELEASE OF LUNS' SUMMING UP.

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